

time when thousands of officers come to Washington, D.C. to honor officers who have given the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty. It's a time of remembrance and an opportunity to provide comfort and appreciation to the families of fallen officers.

The motto of Police Week is: "Never Alone, Never Forgotten." And it must ring in the Halls of Congress not only this week but every day. That's why I have joined Congressman STUPAK in introducing the Law Enforcement Officers' Procedural Bill of Rights. This bipartisan legislation ensures that police officers will receive a fair process and proper protections in administrative proceedings.

I want to thank all the law enforcement community and officers who commit their lives to serve us. From the officers who protect us here at Capitol Hill to those police officers that defend us back in our districts, this country is a safer place because of the work you do.

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#### AFGHANISTAN

(Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, I just returned from Afghanistan yesterday on a delegation led by the gentlewoman from California, SUSAN DAVIS. We are all blessed by the sacrifice of our servicemen and women, our diplomats and other civilians in harm's way. We were moved by the courage of the Afghan women, in whose success rests the future of Afghanistan.

Mr. Speaker, it's time for the President and this Congress to be straight about what it means to win in Afghanistan. Our spending must reflect our goal, and right now it does not. This is not a 90 percent, in-out, 2-year military operation, and everyone there knows it. Winning requires a long-term plan to return 90 percent illiteracy to literacy, to grow food crops to replace poppies, to transform a 16th century economy to the 21st century.

It's a generation of change, and we have to have a plan while we are there and one for leaving. We best honor our men and women who serve and give their lives by being honest. They stand on the wall. They hold the line. They cross the wire. And the least we can do is prepare the American people to match their sacrifice with real and long-term commitment for Afghanistan and for our own national security.

#### YEAR OF THE BAILOUT

(Mr. TIAHRT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, last year should be remembered as the year of the bailout. This year is not much better under the current leadership in

Washington. Incredibly, banks that want to repay the money they got from the Troubled Asset Relief Program, or TARP, as it is referred to, are being stopped by the Obama administration from repaying the funds.

After accepting TARP bailout funds and, in some cases being forced to accept bailouts, many banks have had enough and they are ready to return the money. You would think that would be easy, but the government won't let them pay back the TARP funds. The vague guidelines provided by the Obama administration for returning TARP funds are creating a regulatory uncertainty that is bad for our economy and bad for us taxpayers.

We deserve to get the bailout money back from the banks as quickly as possible, which is why I have introduced the Bailout Freedom Act to ensure sure we have a clear and timely process for making that happen. Once banks are certified to be well capitalized by the regulators, the Federal Government should allow the TARP bailout funding to be paid back.

From the beginning, I have opposed the bailouts and the growing encroachment of the Federal Government in our daily lives. Now we must reverse that course of the current trend and allow TARP bailout funding to be paid back.

Please join me in supporting the Bailout Freedom Act.

#### GLOBAL WARMING IS A CLEAR AND PRESENT DANGER

(Ms. SPEIER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, two-thirds of the American people believe that global warming is a clear and present danger, yet there are still Members in this House that deny it even exists.

Fortunately, many here are working diligently to craft a bipartisan and commonsense energy plan that makes polluters pay, provides for middle class energy tax credits, and creates a new industry and lots of good, clean, green jobs. In the process, we will reduce our reliance on foreign oil from nations that mean to do us harm and put us on a path towards being faithful stewards of this beautiful planet that God has loaned us.

But the science deniers don't care about any of that. They choose, instead, to twist the simple idea that polluters should pay for what they pollute into the same tired argument that it is somehow a tax.

The American people are speaking loud and clear. They want Congress to do something about global warming. At least some of us are listening.

#### DOD NEEDS MORE TRANSPARENCY IN BUDGET PROCESS

(Mr. FLEMING asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FLEMING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a member of the House Armed Services Committee. I am concerned that the Department of Defense has become less open and less accountable. Recent actions taken by the Pentagon has limited transparency and congressional oversight.

First, for the first time ever, non-disclosure agreements have been required of senior defense officials working on the budget.

Second, for the first time, routing ship readiness reports are being classified. This hampers Congress in its important oversight function of the military. The Army was even a no-show at the House Armed Services Committee hearing on its top acquisition project.

Do we want to wait until war to discover we have a hollow fleet or inadequate equipment? Congress has the constitutional duty to raise and support armies and navies.

This responsibility requires candid answers from our senior military leaders about the FY 2010 budget approval. To quote our President, "A democracy requires accountability, and accountability requires transparency." Where is this promised transparency?

#### CLEAN ENERGY FOR AMERICA

(Ms. WATSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. WATSON. Mr. Speaker, America can become the world leader in the new clean energy economy. To ensure our economic recovery is sustainable for years to come, we intend to pass comprehensive clean energy legislation that will create millions of new American jobs that cannot be shipped overseas, reduce our dependence on foreign oil, increase production of cleaner, renewable energy sources, crack down on heavy pollutants who have damaged our air and water quality, and give American entrepreneurs and innovators the tools they need to stay competitive in the global economy.

There is also the Energy and Commerce bill called the American Clean Energy and Security Act. It will invest in American jobs that cannot be shipped overseas. It will reduce our dependence on foreign oil. It will be consumer focused and increase production of cleaner, renewable energy sources.

#### SERIOUS ECONOMIC IMPACT WITH EPA CO<sub>2</sub> RULES

(Mrs. BLACKBURN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, I have a memo and article, "OMB Memo: Serious Economic Impact Likely with EPA CO<sub>2</sub> Rules" and also the article that is from the Dow Jones Newswires that brings attention to this. I have both documents right here, and I encourage my colleagues to read both of these documents.